November-December 2026

LEISURE TIMES

Connecting you with Pony Bird's Leisure Services



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Main Line: 636-282-1414
636-933-3764
Direct Lines
Terri Dallas 636-282-1419
Donna Cooper 636-282-1411
Information Line 636-282-1422
After Hours 314-210-8760

Holiday Greetings

The year-end 2026 Leisure Times

Holiday events are being scheduled for November and December and everyone will want to catch the holiday spirit. With early registration needed for most events, this Holiday edition newsletter will cover November and December events. A newsletter will not be mailed out in December, but a reminder will be emailed. All holiday events fill up quickly. You will want to get your registration as soon as possible. Please keep in mind that registrations cannot be guaranteed without the registration fee for a special event. Due to the expense that goes out for these events, full refunds are not guaranteed if you are unable to attend unless another individual is pulled from a wait list. So, the key is to sign up early and enjoy the activity. And don't forget to call JC Transit when available. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas from our staff and volunteers at Pony Bird Leisure Services.



Transportation

Developmental Disability Advocates enables JC Transit services to be available for a limited number of Leisure Services actvities for a minimal cost to participants. Seats are limited so call at the time of registration for activities.

JC Transit Phone Number
636-933-9380

You must register separately for Leisure activities and JC Transit reservations. See instructions on the registration form.

Activities with JC Transit Service

Movie Nite—Nov. 20th
Movie Nite— Dec. 18th
Christmas Dance—Dec. 11th
Bowling—Nov 14th / Quonset Only
Holiday Bowling December 19th

Please note: OATS vans may be used as a back-up to the JC Transit vans

Leisure Services Transportation
Jefferson County Pick-Up Points
High Ridge - Farm and Home
Hwy 30 & Little Brennan
Herculaneum - Pony Bird building
1615 Vine School Rd
Arnold - Lot to the side of McDonalds
Hwy 141 & I-55

JC Transit services are available, or look for pick-up times at pick-up points under the description of the activity. We reserve the right to cancel or change pick-up points when necessary. A minimum of 3 riders is required to guarantee a pick-up site.

Upcoming Events

- **November 7th:** St. Louis Area Special Olympics Bowling Tournament
- **November 21st:** Christmas Shopping & Lunch
- **December 8th and 15th:** Limo and Lights
- **December 13th:** St. Louis Symphony "The Muppets Christmas Carol"
- **December 11th:** Christmas Dance
- **December 18th:** Movie Nite/ Holiday features
- **December 19th:** Holiday Bowling, Imperial Lanes
- **January 6th :** Pony Bird 2027 Basketball Program







Volunteers are what make it work. Reward Yourself!

"I am only one, but still I can do something." -Helen Keller

Pony Bird is continuously seeking caring individuals who are interested in working with people with developmental disabilities. The success of our services relies heavily on the dedication of our staff, as well as volunteers and community support. We invite you to be part of this success as a volunteer. Help others better their lives. Your reward is their gratitude. It's a great feeling!

Volunteers need to be at least 18 years old and have the desire to work with individuals of all abilities. Volunteers do not need to be experts or professionals in the field of developmental disabilities. Enthusiasm and the desire to work with others is all that is necessary. New volunteers must complete an application. For the safety of our participants, a criminal records check and background screening is completed on all applicants. We seek to match each volunteer with a position that meets his or her interest.

For more information on eligibility and volunteer opportunities, please contact:

Terri Dallas
Leisure Services Program Manager
Phone: 636-282-1414
tmdallas@ponybird.org



Volunteer Opportunities Currently Available

COACHES needed for sports listed below:
Bowling September through April
Basketball January through March

UNIFIED PARTNERS needed for sports below:
Bowling September through April
Basketball January through March

VOLUNTEERS to help at monthly events on a PRN basis
No experience required for any volunteer positions. Training & mentoring is provided. Coaches are required to complete online registration and training through Special Olympics Missouri with direction from Leisure Services.

CPR/First Aid & Safety training offered through Pony Bird.

Inclement Weather Alert Procedure

Leisure actvities that are scheduled when severe weather conditions are predicted may need to be cancelled or postponed. Our staff will monitor weather reports closely if serious weather conditions are likely to interfere with a scheduled actvitiy as well as the safe travel to or from the activity. As soon as a decision can confidently be made regarding cancellation or postponement, an effort will be made to contact all enrolled participants and/or their caregiver/ guardian by using the following:

- Leisure Informaɑon Line 636-282-1422
- Email—check your inbox and spam/junk folder
- Text Messages—messages can now be sent from our new Ring Central phone server. You may received texts from 636-282-1411 or 636-282-1419. These are our Leisure Services office extensions. You may also send text messages to these contact numbers.

Most importantly, check your texts and emails before heading out the door if conditions are questionable.

Special Events

The fee for Special Events should accompany the registration form to guarantee reservation.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING / LUNCH
Get your list ready and join your friends for the morning of shopping for Christmas gifts for your family and friends. We will begin the morning at Five Below in Gravois Bluffs and then go over to Target to finish up. After shopping, we will head over to one of the restaurants in the Bluffs for lunch and to share your bargains with your friends. If you are meeting at Gravois Bluffs, your group leaders will meet you in front of Five Below.

DATE: November 21st
TIME: Herky 9:30 Arnold 10:00
FEE: $20.00 plus money for shopping and lunch
($25.00 is recommended for lunch)

DINNER / LIMO & LIGHTS
We have two Limo/Dinner nights. Please choose just one night. The dinner will be at Culver's in Arnold or Culver's in Fenton. The Limo bus will pick you up at Culver's at 7:00 pm after dinner and take you to Our Lady of Snows in Belleville IL and return to Culvers at 9:00pm.

DATE: Dec.8th Herky / Arnold
TIME: Herky 5:15 Arnold Culvers 6:00
FEE: $35.00 + money for dinner and ice cream

DATE: Dec. 15th Barnhart/High Ridge
TIME: Barnhart 5:00 Fenton Culvers 6:00
FEE: $35.00 + money for dinner and ice cream
($20.00 is recommended for dinner)

CHRISTMAS DANCE
If you have not been to one of our dances, you should join us. The dances are lots of fun and it's a great place to meet a lot of people in one night. We have a DJ that will play all your favorite songs and we serve snacks. You never know who might show up to bring some Christmas spirit. Ho,Ho,Ho! The dress is casual.

DATE: Friday, December 11th
TIME: 7:00-9:30
PLACE: Pony Bird Building 1615 Vine School Road
Herculaneum 63048
FEE: $10.00

JC Transit available.

ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY: THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL
Members of the St. Louis Symphony plays the music score while watching Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, and all your favorite Muppets in this merry, magical version of Charles Dickens' classic tale.

DATE: Sunday, December 13th
TIME: Herky 11:30am Arnold 12:00pm
PLACE: Powell Symphony Hall
FEE: $60.00

***THIS IS A CASH FREE VENUE. Please bring debit card or pre paid visa for concessions ***

Dick Bennett Memorial Fund is available for payment assistance.

HOLIDAY BOWL
Celebrate the holidays with your bowling buds and have a little fun on the lanes at the same time.Dress in the holiday spirit and wear your favorite Ugly Christmas Sweater for a special contest. A holiday treat is offered as well.

PLACE: Strike & Spare Imperial Bowl, 6045 W. Outer Rd, Imperial
DATE: Saturday December 19th
TIME: 12:00-2:00
FEE: $15.00 for 2 hours of bowling, shoes included

JC Transit available.



Monthly Activities

MOVIE NITE
Come see it at the movies! Enjoy a night out with our group of movie buffs. Anyone is welcome. At this time, we are limiting our numbers to 15 people so you will want to sign up soon. We are hoping for some holiday features to keep us in the Christmas spirit.

DATE: Friday, November 20th & Friday, December 18th
TIME: Meet at theater at 6:00
PLACE: Arnold and Festus Theaters
FEE: $20.00
(Suggested minimum of $20 for concessions.)

JC Transit available.

DINNER CLUB: Applebee's Bar and Grill
Join us for a fun night out while dining with your friends. Applebee's offers a large variety of your favorite foods and have some great specials too. *$25.00 is recommended for dinner*

PLACE: HERKY/ARNOLD
Date: Nov. 10th
Time: Herculaneum 5:15 Arnold 5:45
Fee: $12.00 + Money for Dinner

PLACE: HERKY/ARNOLD
Date: Nov. 17th
Time: Herculaneum 5:15 Arnold 5:45
Fee: $12.00 + Money for Dinner

PLACE: BARNHART/HIGH RIDGE
Date: Nov 24th
Time: Barnhart 5:30 High Ridge 6:00
Fee: $12.00 + Money for Dinner

SATURDAY BOWL
PLACE: Quonset Bowl, 2004 Truman Blvd,
Crystal City*****
DATE: November 14th
TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 pm
FEE: $15.00 for 2 hours of bowling, shoes included

PLACE: Strike & Spare Imperial Bowl,
6045 W. Outer Rd, Imperial
DATE: November 14th
TIME: 9:30 – 11:30
FEE: $15.00 for 2 hours of bowling, shoes included

*****JC Transit available for Quonset only







Sports

Congratulations to our Outdoor Games Athletes

Special Olympics athletes from Pony Bird traveled to Springfield to compete in the Special Olympics Outdoor games that took place October 16th – 18th. We had 19 athletes and 8 Unified Partners travel to the games to compete in Tennis & Bocce, bringing home a load of medals around their necks. Congratulations to all athletes who have committed to weekly practices over the summer months so they can compete at the top of their game. Thank you to our volunteer coaches and chaperons for working with our athletes and taking them to qualifying tournaments throughout the season to get them to the State Games. Everyone had a great time in the competitions and other activities offered throughout the weekend, including Healthy Athlete screenings, bingo, and a victory dance.

Tournament Awards – Great job, teams!!
Tennis: 2 Gold, 1 Silver, 4 Bronze
Bocce: 5 Gold, 7 Silver, 5 Bronze, 6 Fourth Place

Bowling Tournament Season

Congratulations to our Pony Bird Bowlers who will be competing in the Jefferson County Bowling Tournament on October 28th at Imperial Strikes and Spares Lanes. We have 40 athletes and 4 unified partners competing in singles, doubles, and Unified team competitions. We will also be joined by Pony Bird bowlers from our CSS and Community Living programs. It will be great seeing everyone on the lanes and enjoying the game at this level. We have some great bowlers on our Pony Bird team, and we are proud of each one of them. For some, it is also time to prepare for the St. Louis Area tournament in Valley Park on November 7th. Good Luck to all!

2027 Basketball Season

If you are up for a good game of basketball join our Pony Bird team. Our first practice is scheduled for January 6th. We will have several players returning this year, but we are always looking for new ones. You will need to be enrolled with Leisure Services and have a current Special Olympics registration completed to compete, but competition is optional. If you prefer to practice only, you will still have a great time with other players. Online registrations for Special Olympics athletes are due by December 31st. Contact our office for instructions for online Special Olympics registration. This year we are in demand for new coaches. General knowledge of the sport is preferred but not required. Enthusiasm is all that is needed!! You are guaranteed a great time. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Terri at tmdallas@ponybird.org.

Registration Due December 31st

Wednesday Night Practices Festus Elementary School Gym
January 6th—March 17th
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
$25.00 sports fee

2027 Tournament Schedule
Area: January 23, Wentzville
Invitational: Mid-February, Cape Girardeau (TBA)
State: March 21st, Jefferson City





Registration Procedure

Below is the procedure we recommend you use to successfully register for Leisure Services activities.

- Look over the newsletter and complete the registration form. Please avoid calling in your reservations.
  - You may print registration form and return by mail with your check to cover fees (please note in memo of check “Leisure Services Activities”)
  - You may email your registration and send check by mail to cover fees (please note in memo of check “Leisure Services Activities”)
- Please make checks payable to **Pony Bird, Inc.** and mail them to **Pony Bird, 1615 Vine School Rd, Herculaneum MO 63048.**
- You will need to contact JC Transit to request a ride to activities indicating this service. Contact JC Transit at 933-9380. Remember that there are limited slots for transportation so set up your ride as soon as possible. You will also have the option to meet our group at pick-up points or event locations.
- It is important that you cancel a reservation for any activity you are unable to attend, both with Leisure Services and JC Transit. A 24-hour cancellation notice is required to be considered for a refund of your activity fee; however, refunds cannot be guaranteed upon cancellation.
- In case of INCLEMENT WEATHER, you may call our Event Information Line at 636-282-1422 or 933-3422 to check the status of an activity before heading out the door. All cancellations will be made by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the event, and notices will be sent by text or email.
- HAVE A GREAT TIME!

REGISTRATION FORM

You must register for all activities in advance. If you are not registered, you may be sent home due to staff/participant ratio.

Name: _____Phone:_____

Nearest pick-up point: _____

November Events

___Dinner Club Festus/Arnold/ Nov 10th	$12.00
___Dinner Club Festus/Arnold /Nov 17th	$12.00
___Dinner Club H. Ridge / Nov 24th	$12.00
___Bowling Quonset Lane /Nov. 14th	$15.00
___Bowling Imperial Strikes and Spares /Nov. 14th	$15.00
___Movie Night- Arnold / Nov 20th	$20.00
___Movie Night– Festus / Nov 20th	$20.00
___Christmas Shopping & Lunch / Nov 21st	$20.00

December Events

___Limo & Lights / Dec. 8th	$35.00
___Limo & Lights / Dec. 15th	$35.00
___Christmas Dance / Dec 11th	$10.00
___St. Louis Symphony/ Dec 13th	$60.00
___Movie Night Arnold/ Dec 18th	$20.00
___Movie Night Festus / Dec 18th	$20.00
___Holiday Bowling/Imperial Strikes and Spares/Dec.19th	$15.00
___Pony Bird Basketball / Beginning Jan. 6th	$25.00

Amount Enclosed:_____

Please send registration form with payment to Pony Bird, Inc. 1615 Vine School Rd, Herculaneum MO 63048







Place stamp here

Leisure Service
Pony Bird, Inc
1615 Vine School RD
Herculaneum MO
63065

Phone: 636-282-1414
Phone: 636-933-3764

Information Line:
636-282-1422

Emergency Line:
314-210-8760

Email:
leisure@ponybird.org

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@ponybirdblue

Visit us on the web:
www.ponybird.org/leisure

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Dick Bennett Memorial Fund

If you are in need of financial assistance to attend Leisure activities, scholarship money is available through the Dick Bennett Memorial Fund. Dick was a long time director for our agency and attended many of our Leisure trips as a chaperon, enjoying the events as much as our participants.

Memorial funds have been set up to help others experience that same joy. Your request will be kept confidential and the amount of assistance will be based on individual needs. Funds can be used to pay activity fees, transportation fees, or both To keep this fund viable, continued contributions may be made, including memorials for loved ones. Pleasemake checks to Pony Bird, Inc and note that it is for the Dick Bennett Memorial Fund.

Thank you for your continued support.

Vacation Opportunities

Make your suggestion for the 2027 Summer Vacation on the registration form and we will consider your request.